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SOURCE Vestnik ministerstev tezkeho a lehkeho prumyslu.

DECREE CONCERNING CZECH COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

A decree published in Uredni List of 17 May 1951, has delegated to the Czechoslovak postal system the authority to utilize all idle telecommunications equipment. This includes telephones, telephone exchanges, the Hel /unidentified/ and Star Stop /unidentified/ teletype equipment, telegraph exchanges, as well as parts for such instruments, equipment for secret conversations, dictaphones, and similar devices. However, this does not include home telephones, hall telephones, so-called buzzer systems, and similar simple systems intended for use inside a building only.

According to this decree, the following telecommunications systems are to be considered unessential when they are not needed for continued smooth operation: equipment which already exists in the establishment, building, or other property, whose user is some organ, public administration, or court, a national or communal enterprise, people's cooperative, association for foreign trade, and international forwarding agency, an enterprise which is under the jurisdiction of the national general administrative organ, or a national or communal enterprise or mass organization. If such consumers are using telephone and telegraph exchanges, and if it is possible to exchange their present equipment for a smaller or simpler system without interrupting normal business, then such telecommunications systems are considered to be unutilized. Telecommunications systems are considered unutilized when they are located in rooms, buildings, or other property, except as noted above.

The decree specifies that room, building, or other type of property users must declare all unutilized telecommunications equipment. The declaration must be made before 15 June 1951; any equipment which becomes idle after this date must be declared useless within 30 days. The declaration is made to the national post office, always to one belonging to a kraj administrative union, the appropriate one being determined according to the location of the unused equipment.

- 1 -

25X1A

25X1A

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The declarer must give his name, employment and home address, and, whenever applicable, the name and address of the owner of the equipment, the date of the declaration, the signature of the declarer, and location and brief description of the equipment. In addition, the declarer may also be required to give a more detailed report on all unused equipment.

The owners of unused telecommunications equipment may be required, on request of the national post office, to release the equipment to the latter for an established, reasonable amount. In the case of unused switchboards and telegraph exchanges, the consumer will exchange such equipment, whenever practicable, for smaller or simpler apparatus.

This decree does not apply to the telecommunications equipment of the Czechoslovak postal system, including the equipment loaned to consumers (for example, participating telephone stations), the national railroads, military, air, sea, and navigation administrations, the Committee of National Security, and the Czechoslovak Broadcasting System.

The Ministry of Posts, or the appropriate organ with delegated authority, may make exceptions to this decree.

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- 2 -

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